



Test Slide



# Fault tolerant quantum computing with

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# Fault-tolerant quantum computing

It's all about simulation.



**Ideal**

Circuit  $C$

Size  $L$

**Faulty**

Circuit  $C'$

Size  $O(\varepsilon^{\square 1} L \log^c L)$

**Theorem:** Simulation possible when elementary ops fail with error probability below accuracy threshold  $p_c$ .

**Proof:** By some explicit construction having a particular  $c$ ,  $p_c$  and big-O

# Assumption junction

- Nonincreasing error rate
- Parallel operation
- Refreshable qubits
- Reliable classical computation
- Fast classical computation
- No qubit leakage
- Uncorrelated noise
- Standard gate basis
- Equal-time gates
- Uniformly faulty gates
- 2D layout
- Local quantum processing

Necessary

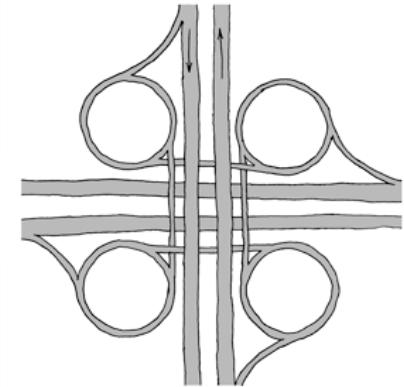
Helpful

Convenient

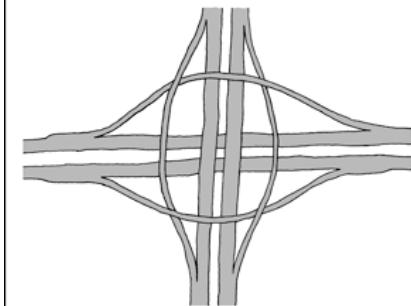
Realistic

HIGHWAY ENGINEER PRANKS:

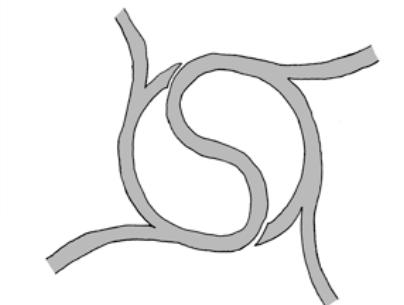
THE INESCAPABLE CLOVERLEAF:



THE ZERO-CHOICE INTERCHANGE:



THE ROTARY SUPERCOLLIDER:



# Quintessential fault tolerance

## 1. Code Family

- Color codes (triangular, 4.8.8)

## 2. Syndrome extraction protocol

- CNOT schedule into an ancilla

## 3. (Syndrome) ancilla distillation protocol

- None (N/A).

## 4. (Classical) decoding algorithm

- Most-likely error (MLE) decoding

## 5. Encoded universal gate basis

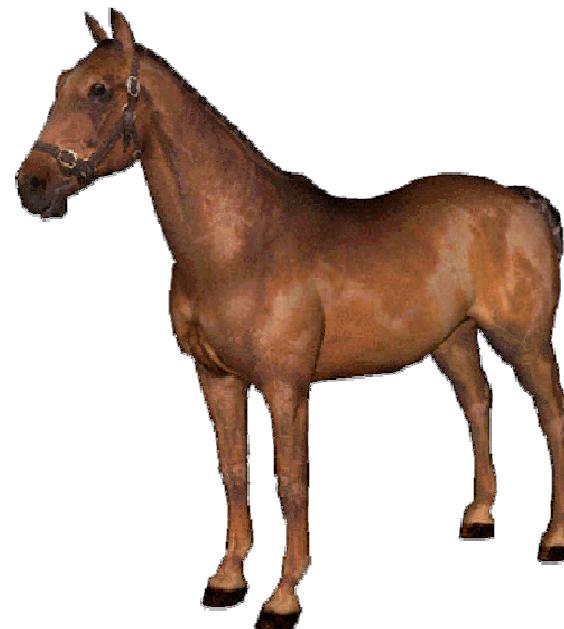
- Clifford group by transversal ops + code deformation
- $T$  gate by magic state  $|T\rangle$  (encoded or injected)



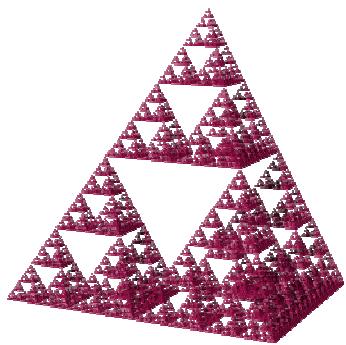
Strategy: Given an  $\varepsilon$ , dial up a large enough code.

# Results

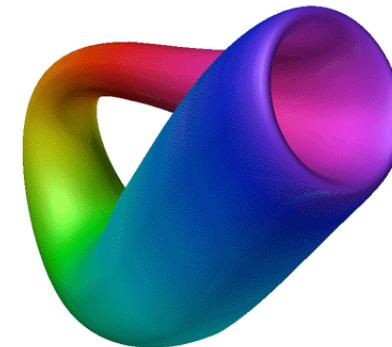
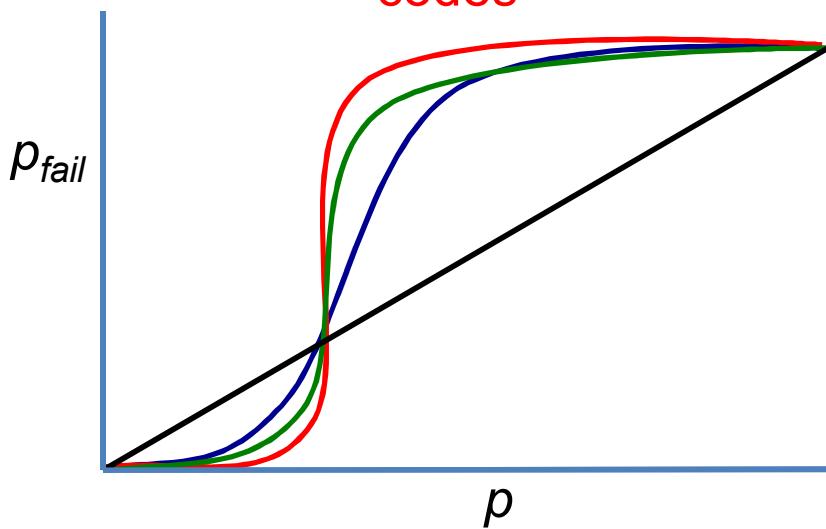
Before defining color codes, the syndrome extraction protocol, the decoder, etc., let's review the accuracy threshold we estimated...



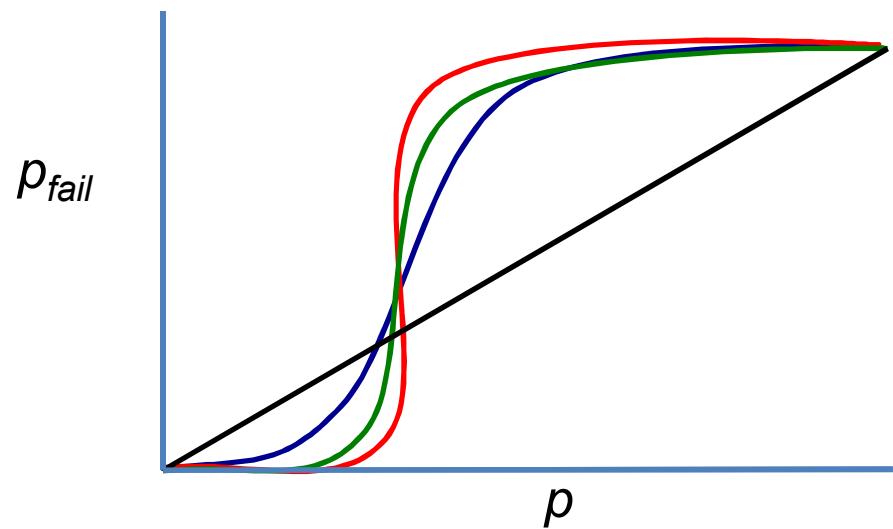
# Qualitative threshold estimate



Concatenated  
codes



Topological codes (so far)



# Computing the threshold

- Repeat for increasing code distances  $d$  (until it becomes intractable)

- Repeat for multiple fault rates per operation  $p$  near the threshold  $p_c$

- Repeat  $N$  times, where  $N$  is on the order of  $100/(p_c)^2$

1. Throw down errors

$p_{fail} = \frac{N_{fail}}{N} \pm \sqrt{\frac{p_{fail}(1 - p_{fail})}{N}}$

Decode and record success/failure (subtle)

- 

$$p_{fail} = A + B(p - p_c)d^{-\nu}$$

- Fit data using method of differential corrections\* to a form such as

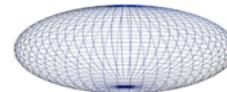


# Three noise models

1. Bit-flip channel followed by phase-flip channel on data qubits only. (“Code capacity”)
2. Same, but also bit-flip channel on syndrome qubits. (“Phenomenological noise model”)
3. Bit-flip channel followed by phase-flip channel on data qubits and on each gate in the syndrome extraction circuit. (“Circuit-based noise model”)

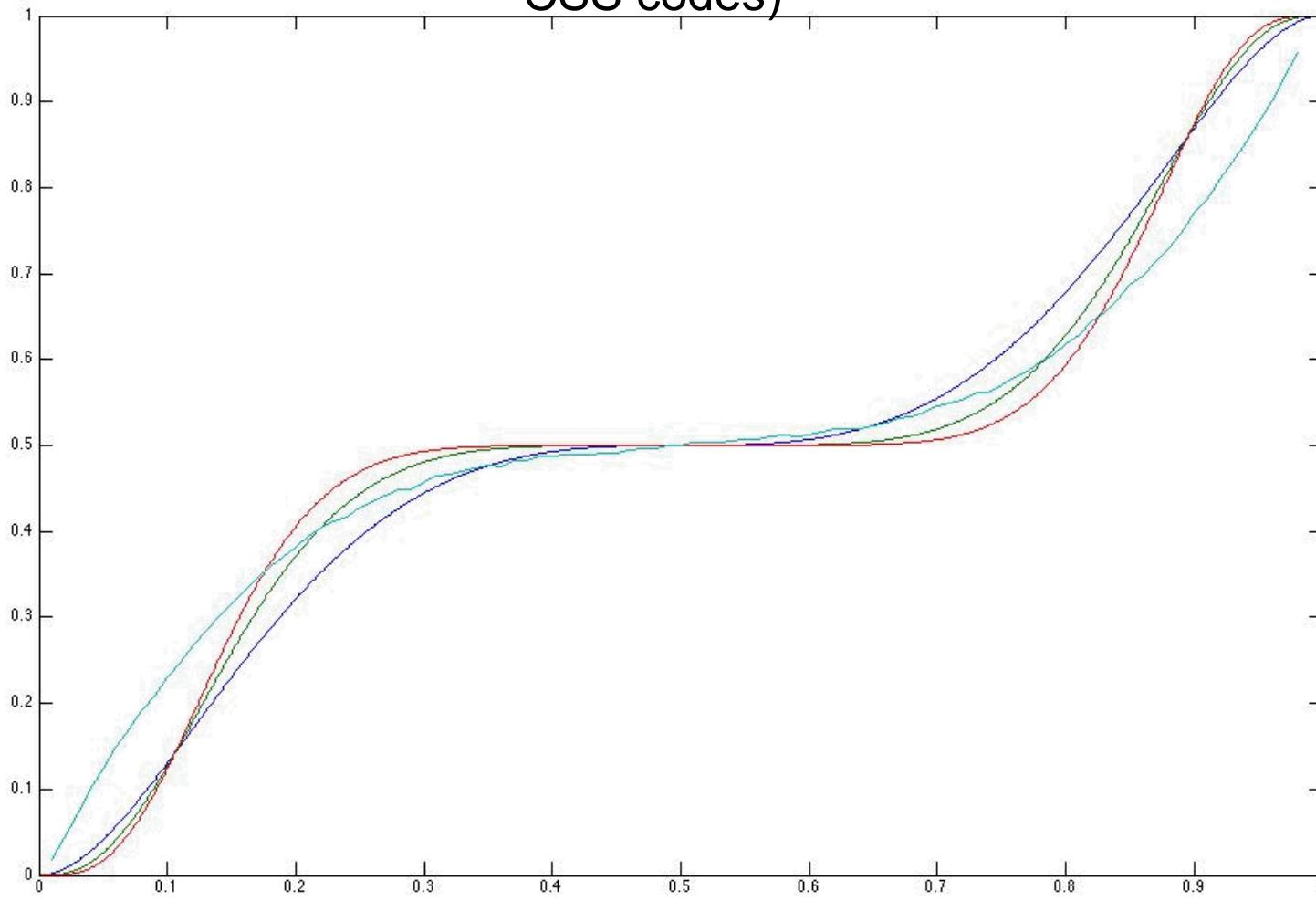
$$\rho \mapsto (1 - p)\rho + pZ\rho Z$$

$$\rho \mapsto (1 - p)\rho + pX\rho X$$



# Code capacity

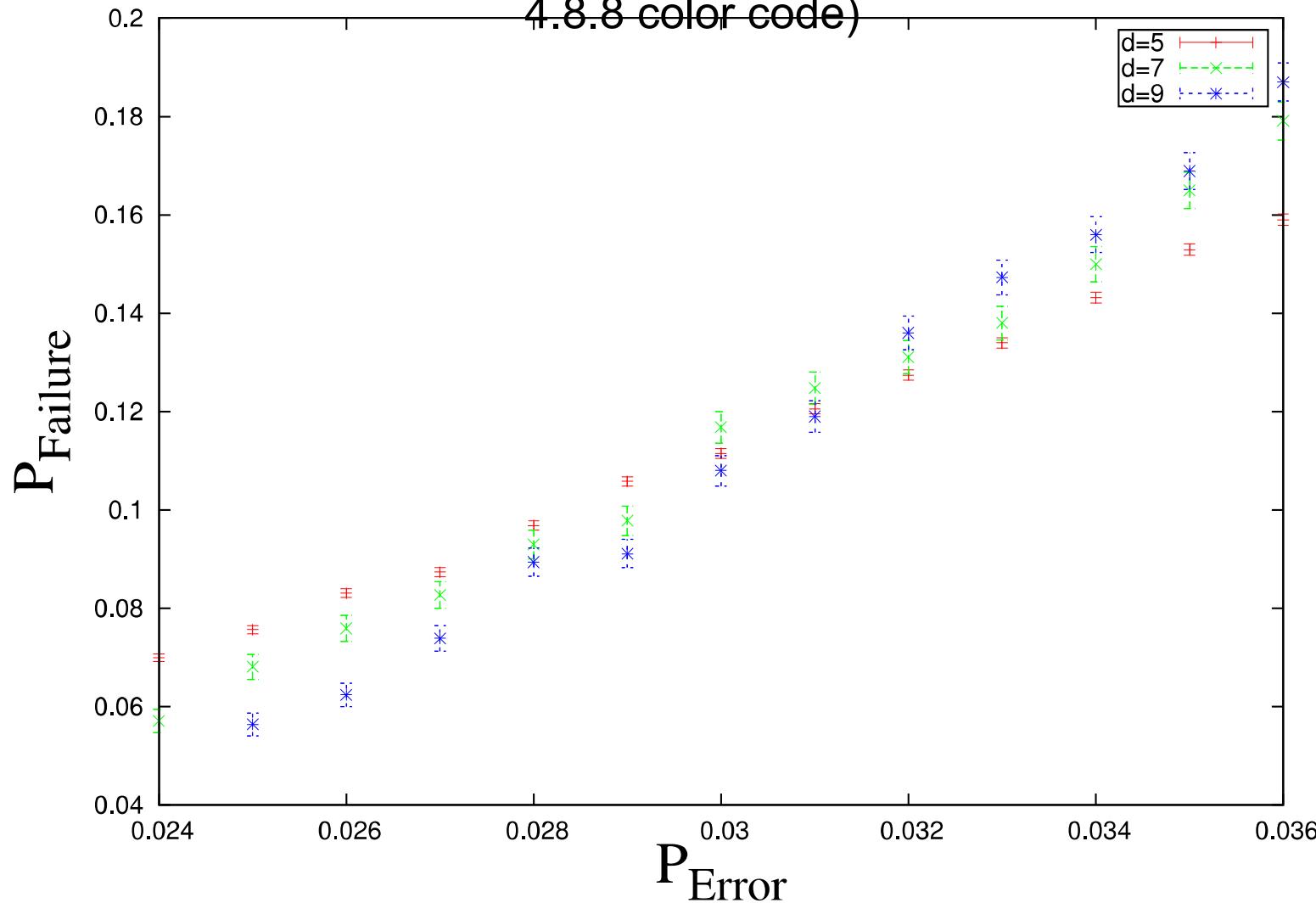
10.5% (cf. 10.3% for MLE decoding of toric code; 10.9% optimal decoding of toric, 4.8.8 color codes; 11% bound for CSS codes)



# “Phenomenological” FTQC threshold

3.05% (cf. 2.94% for MLE decoding of toric code; 3.30% optimal decoding of toric code; 4.5% optimal decoding of

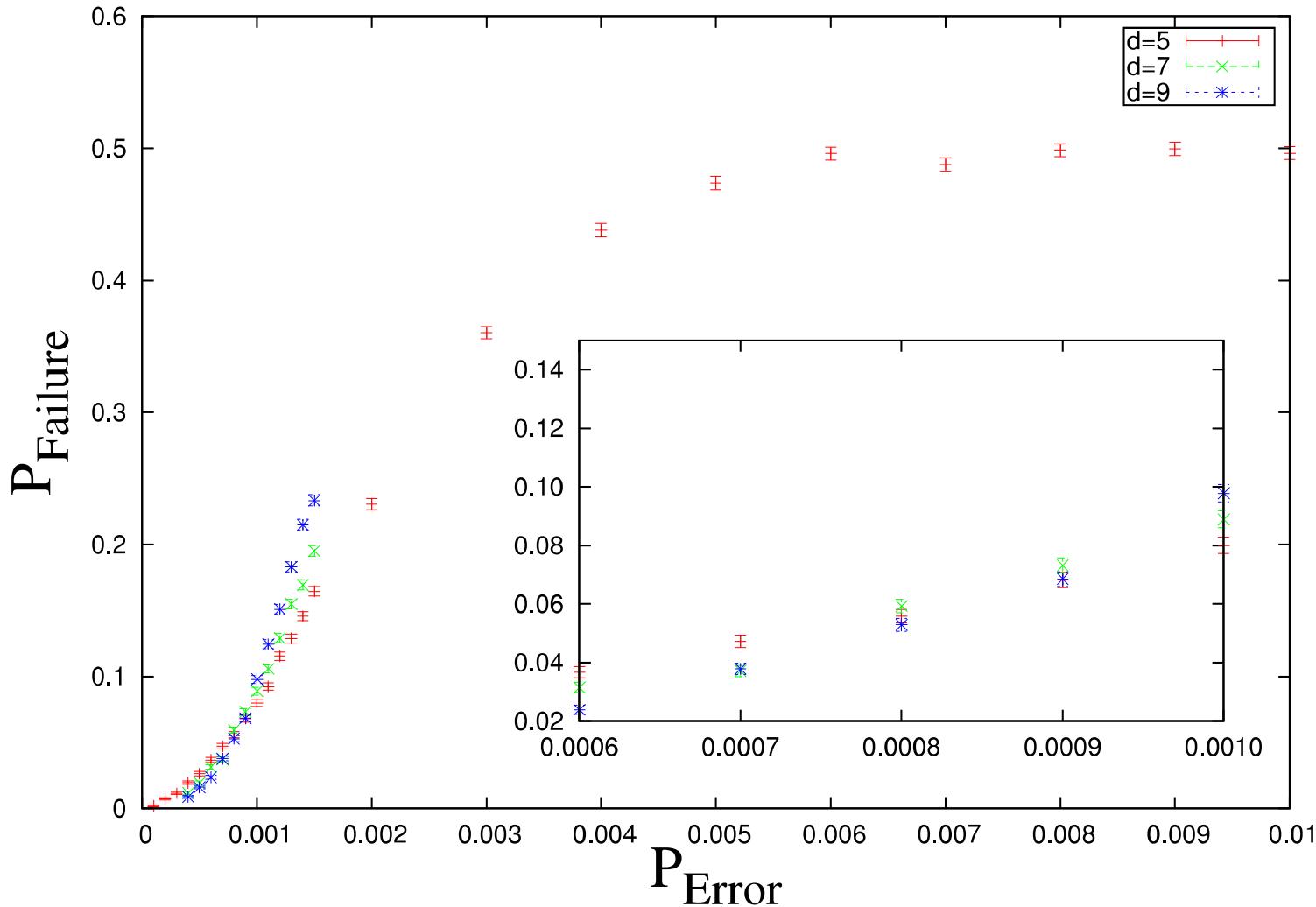
4.8.8 color code)



# Circuit-based FTQC threshold

0.085% (cf. 0.75% to 1.1% for MLE decoding of toric

$3.05 \times 10^{-5}$  rigorous lower bound by combinatorial counting (cf.  $1.7 \times 10^{-4}$   
rigorous lower bound by combinatorial counting for toric code)



# The take-home message

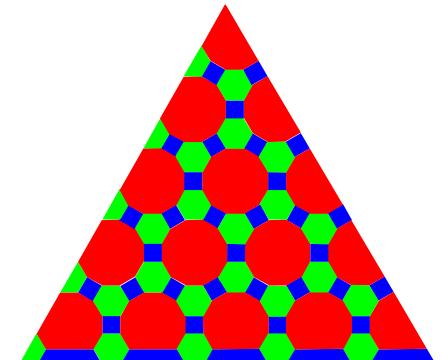
The FTQC accuracy threshold for color codes is about  
1/10 that of toric codes

But...

1. The threshold may increase for other FTQC schemes.

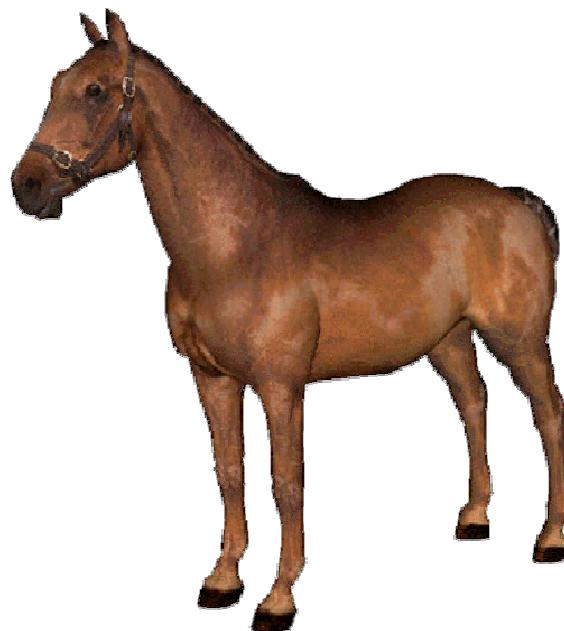


2. Color codes need far fewer magic state resources and use half the qubits for a comparable toric code.



# Background

Let's define color codes, the syndrome extraction protocol, the decoder, etc., that we used, some of which we developed ourselves.



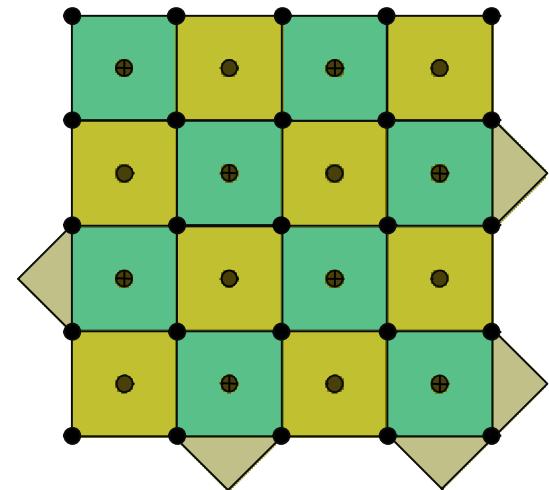
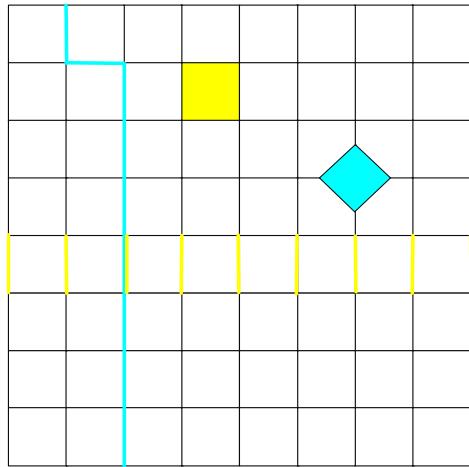
# How most people depict a toric code



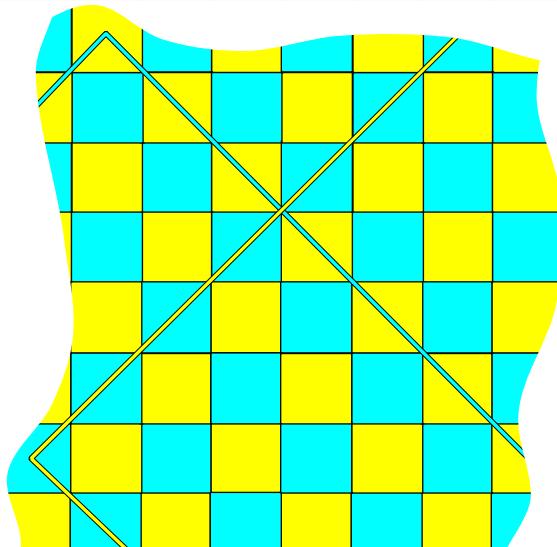
# The right way to depict a toric code



# Bombinize!

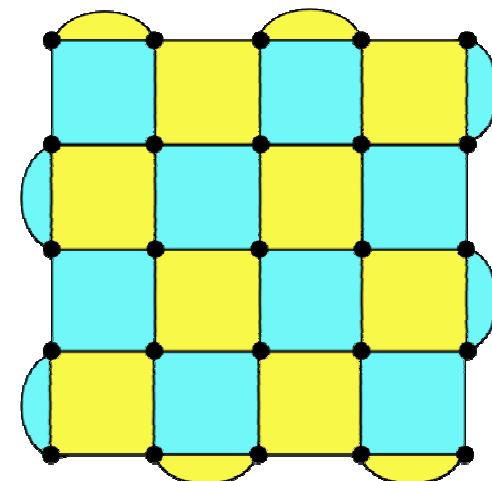
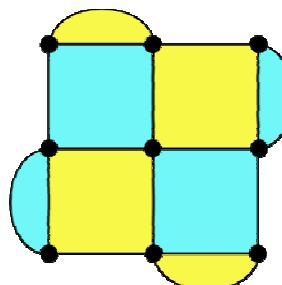


Medial graph: combines a graph and its dual

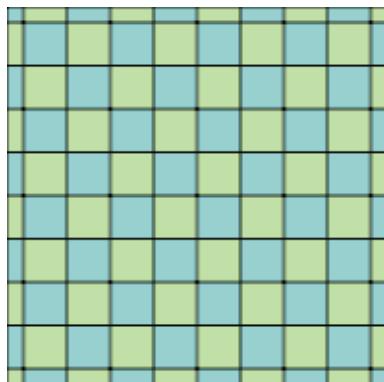


**Theorem:** All medial graphs are 4-valent and face-2-colorable.

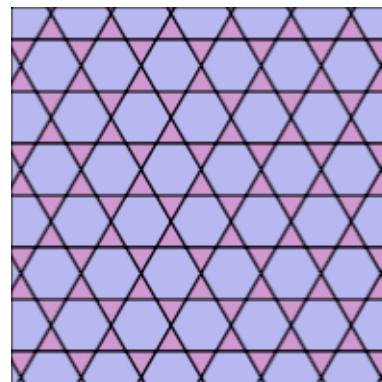
# Planarize, planarize, planarize!



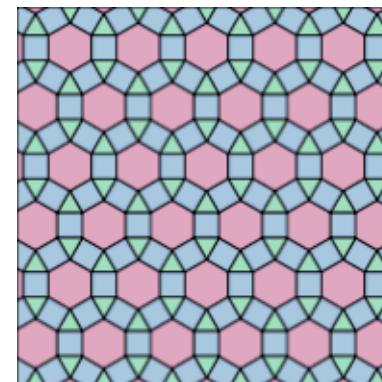
Vertex-transitive 4-valent face-2-colorable lattices:



4.4.4.4  
(Square)



3.6.3.6 (Kagome)



3.4.6.4

# Color codes

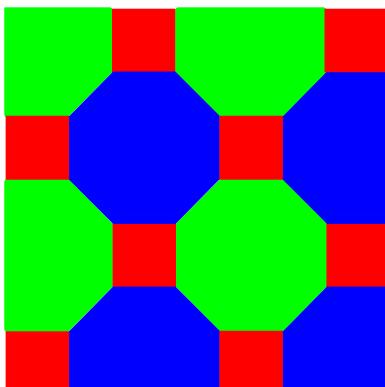
Defined for 3-valent face-3-colorable graphs

Each face in such a graph has an even number of vertices

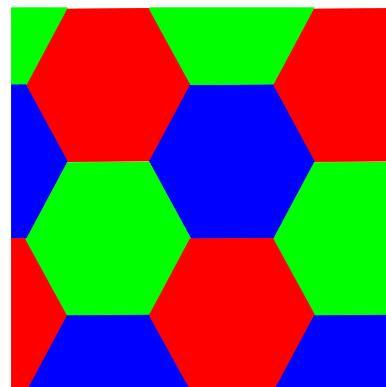
and edges



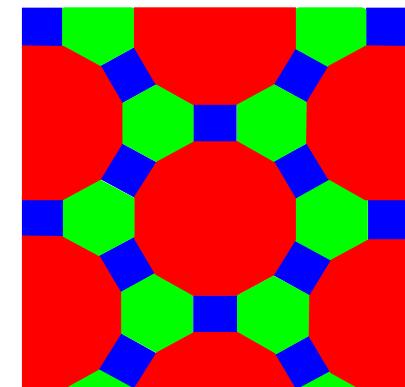
Vertex-transitive 3-valent face-3-colorable lattices:



4.8.8



6.6.6 (Hex)

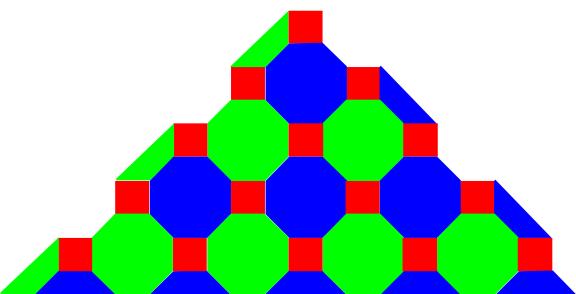


4.6.12

# Planar color codes

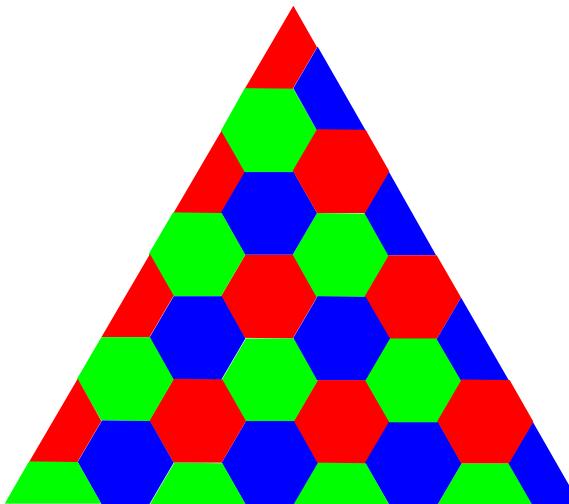
Check operators (stabilizer generators)  $X_{\text{face}} = X^{\otimes i \in \text{face}}$      $Z_{\text{face}} = Z^{\otimes i \in \text{face}}$

Logical operator generators  $\overline{X} = X^{\otimes i \in \text{side}}$      $\overline{Z} = Z^{\otimes i \in \text{side}}$



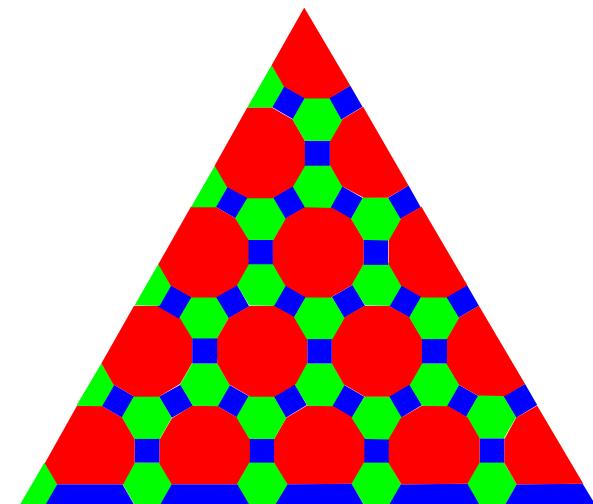
4.8.8

$$n = \frac{1}{2}d^2 + d - \frac{1}{2}$$



6.6.6 (Hex)

$$n = \frac{3}{4}d^2 + \frac{1}{4}$$



4.6.12

$$n = \frac{3}{2}d^2 - 3d + \frac{5}{2}$$

The 4.8.8 code uses half the qubits of the Kitaev surface code asymptotically!

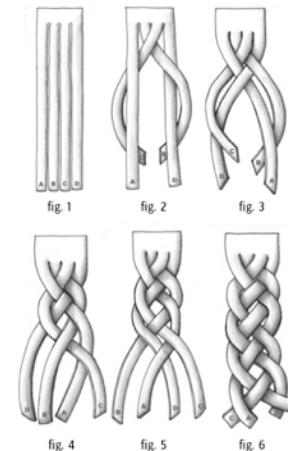
All these codes have the  $[[7, 1, 3]]$  Steane code as their base.

# Encoded computations

Can show that encoded  $H$ ,  $S$ ,  $M_Z$ ,  $CNOT$  (encoded Clifford circuits) are transversal



Can perform  $CNOT$  by braiding, just as for toric codes (and only between  $Z$ -type and  $X$ -type defects, as with toric codes).

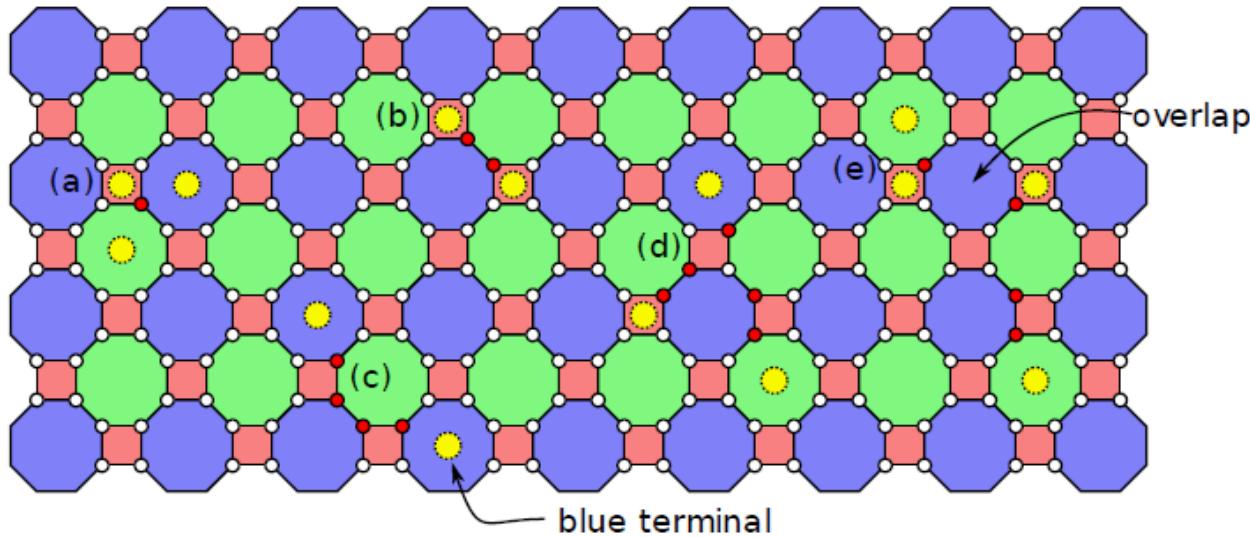


Need a magic state to get outside Clifford group.  
Use  $T$  state, e.g.



# Most-likely error (MLE) decoding

Wang *et al.*: Heuristic decoder using perfect matching.



MLE decoder:

$$\min \sum_v x_v$$

$$\text{sto } \bigoplus_{v \in f} x_v = s_f \quad \forall f$$

$$x_v \in \mathbb{B} := \{0, 1\}$$

Canonical integer program (IP) form

$$\min \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{x}$$

$$\text{sto } H\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{s}$$

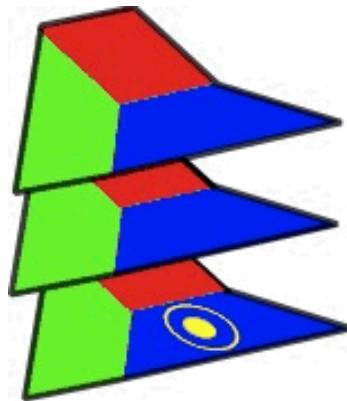
$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{B}^n$$

NP-hard in general.

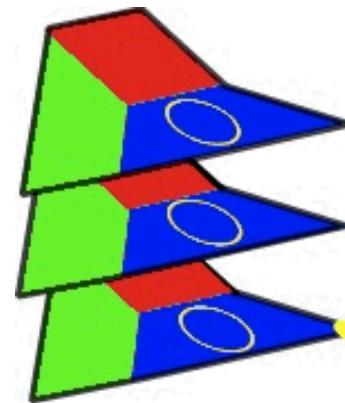
For this class of codes, who knows?

# Fault-tolerant MLE decoding

Time ↑



Syndrome measurement error



Data error

$\Delta s$  = *changes* in syndrome at each time

step  $x = (\underbrace{d_{\text{round 1}} \cdots d_{\text{round } n}}_{\text{data qubits}} \underbrace{a_{\text{round 1}} \cdots a_{\text{round } n}}_{\text{ancilla qubits}})$

Modified IP

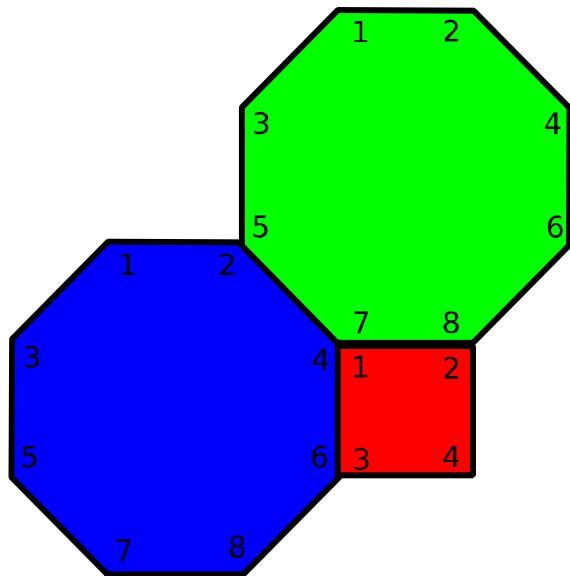
$$\min \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{x}$$

$$\text{sto } A\mathbf{x} = \Delta s$$

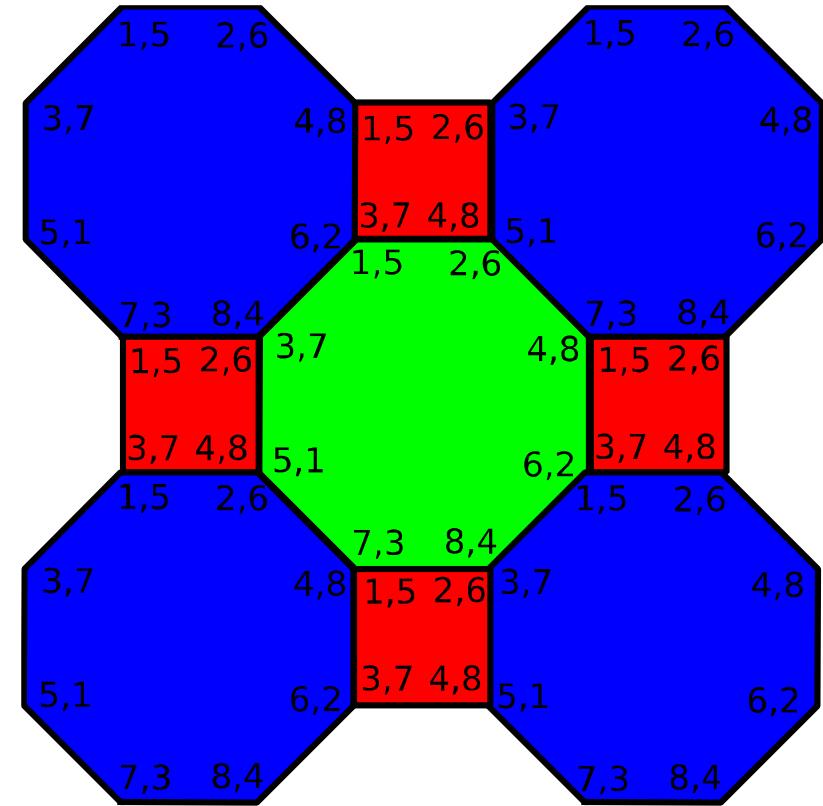
$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{B}^{n^2 + Fn}$$

# Syndrome extraction schedule

16-step  
schedule



8-step schedule



Can show that these schedules propagate errors at most a bounded radius away in the syndrome extraction circuit

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## 5. Encoded universal gate basis

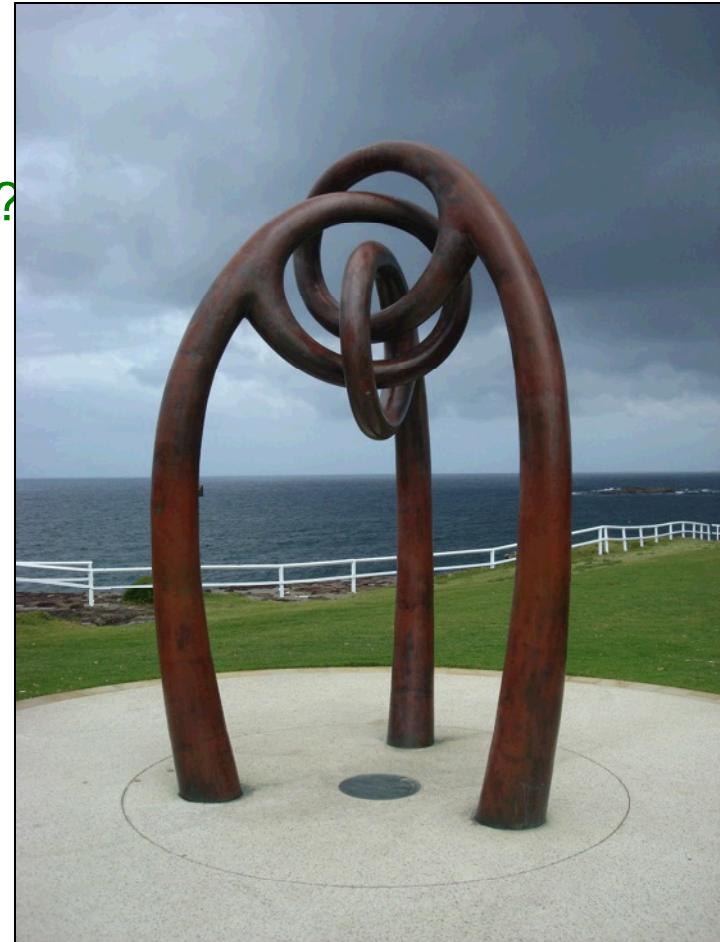
- Clifford group by transversal ops + code deformation
- $T$  gate by magic state  $|T\rangle$  (encoded or injected)



Strategy: Given an  $\varepsilon$ , dial up a large enough code.

# Open questions

1. Linear program relaxation of IP?
2. Threshold against depolarizing noise?
3. Threshold for optimal decoding?
4. Threshold against leakage?
5. Cat state ancillas?
6. Better rigorous lower bounds?
7. 3D color codes? (Only magic state is logical)  
 $| \rangle \langle \rangle$





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